UNITED NATIONS

ST

Secretariat

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INFORMATION CIRCULAR

To: Members of delegations and staff

From: The Assistant Secretary-General for General Services

Subject: FIRST DAY OF ISSUE: "MISSION TO PLANET EARTH" STAMPS, SOUVENIR CARD, MAXIMUM CARDS AND NEW POSTAL STATIONERY

Stamps

1. On Friday, 4 September 1992, the United Nations Postal Administration (UNPA) will issue a set of three 10-stamp minisheets with the theme "Mission to Planet Earth" to commemorate International Space Year 1992.

29 cents

2. Each sheet consists of five horizontal se-tenant pairs of stamps with a special crown. The sheets of stamps have slit perforations rather than the traditional pinhole method of perforation.

3. The stamps were designed by Attila Hejja, United States of America, while the sheet concept and design is the work of Rocco J. Callari, a United Nations staff member.

4. The stamps will be printed in photogravure by Helio Courvoisier S.A., Switzerland, as follows:

Quantities:	29 cents	1 500 000
	F.s. 1,10	1 650 000
	S 10	2 100 000
Size:	36 mm x 30.4 mm	
Perforation:	Roulette	

F.s. 1,10

S 10

(United States equivalents: F.s. 1,10 - 91 cents; and S 10 - $1.07, subject to exchange-rate fluctuation.)

5. Owing to the unusual format of the sheets, collectors are advised that the following selling units are available:

(a) Mint stamps:

Single:	One attached plain se-tenant pair
Full sheet:	Five se-tenant pairs with crown (10 stamps)

(b) First-day covers:

Single:	One cover affixed with one attached plain se-tenant pair of stamps
MI block of four:	One cover affixed with two se-tenant pairs from the BOTTOM of the sheet ONLY
Combination:	One cover affixed with one se-tenant pair with the TOP border of the sheet (to include crown)
Jumbo:	One large cover with a full sheet
Triple cancelled combination:	One large cover affixed with one se-tenant pair together with the TOP border design of each denomination

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Souvenir card

6. The forty-first in a series of souvenir cards will also be released on 4 September 1992 to coincide with the "Mission to Planet Earth" issue. The card, designed by Rocco J. Callari, a United Nations staff member, will be printed in a quantity of 90,000 by Helio Courvoisier S.A., Switzerland, using an offset lithography process.

Maximum cards

7. On 4 September 1992, UNPA will issue its third set of maximum cards. The three designs (one for each of the three offices) will relate to the common theme "Mission to Planet Earth".

8. The maximum card cancelled United Nations/New York will sell for 88 cents. The cancelled United Nations/Geneva and cancelled United Nations/Vienna are priced at $2.17 and $2.46 respectively, but are subject to exchange-rate fluctuations.

New postal stationery

9. Two air letters and three postal cards will be issued on 4 September 1992:

(a) The 45 cent air letter was designed by Robert Stein, a United Nations staff member, based on a concept by G. Calvi, Brazil. It will be printed in an initial quantity of 185,000;

(b) The S 12 air letter was designed by Rocco J. Callari and has an initial printing quantity of 200,000;

(c) The 40 cent postal card is an adaptation of the 1991 $2.00 stamp adapted by Rocco J. Callari and Robert Stein from a photograph taken by Unmesh, who is also a United Nations staff member. An initial quantity of 150,000 is planned;

(d) The F.s. 0,90 postal card is an adaptation of the 1990 F.s. 5,00 definitive stamp designed by Guy Breniaux, France, and has an initial quantity of 150,000;

(e) The S 6 postal card is an adaptation of the 1990 S 1.50 definitive stamp designed by Kurt Regschek, Austria, and has an initial printing quantity of 445,000.

(United States equivalents: F.s. 0,90 - 75 cents; S 6 - 64 cents; and S 12 - $1.29, subject to exchange-rate fluctuation.)

10. The postal cards were designed by Rocco J. Callari and Robert Stein.

11. The new postal stationery will be printed by Mercury-Walch, Australia, using an offset lithography process.

12. For the convenience of collectors at Headquarters, UNPA will provide prepared and cancelled New York, Geneva and Vienna first-day covers on the UNPA official first day cachets ONLY.

13. Members of delegations and the staff may obtain the new stamps and related products as well as the first day cancellations on Friday, 4 September, at the following locations:

(a) The UNPA sales counter in the concourse of the General Assembly Building: 9 a.m. to 5.30 p.m.;

(b) The counter at the north end of the Secretariat lobby, from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.